

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-23, and 26 have been amended herein. All of the pending claims 1 through 26 are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a wafer level burn-in reliability curve, comprising:

detecting a signal indicating a transition associated with one of a number *m* of cycles of burn-in testing of a wafer;

storing a time stamp associated with ~~said~~ the transition in nonvolatile memory in each integrated circuit (IC) die on ~~said~~ the wafer;

performing a built-in self test (BIST) to determine a current number of failures in the each ~~said~~ IC die associated with ~~said~~ the time stamp;

storing ~~said~~ the current number of failures in the each ~~said~~ IC die associated with ~~said~~ the time stamp in ~~said~~ the nonvolatile memory in the each ~~said~~ IC die;

repeating the foregoing for at least one additional cycle of burn-in testing; and

reading ~~said~~ each time stamp ~~and~~ and the current number of failures associated with ~~said~~ the time stamp for each ~~of~~ said at least one additional cycle ~~time~~ time stamps.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the signal indicating ~~a~~ the transition associated with one of ~~said~~ the number *m* of cycles of burn-in testing comprises a supervoltage signal.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the number *m* number *m* of cycles comprises four quarters of burn-in testing.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ transition occurs before a first time stamp, between two consecutive time-stamps ~~stamps~~, or after a last time stamp of ~~said the~~ number m of cycles of burn-in testing.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ wafer comprises a plurality of integrated circuits.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein each of ~~said the~~ plurality of integrated circuits comprises a memory device.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said reading said the time stamp and and the~~ current number of failures associated with ~~said the~~ time stamp for each of ~~said time stamps~~ IC die on the wafer comprises reading nonvolatile elements at wafer probe testing.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising generating ~~said the wafer level~~ burn-in reliability curve from ~~said the time stamp and the each time stamp and~~ ~~said the~~ current number of failures associated with ~~said time stamp for each of said time stamps~~ the one of a number of m cycles and the at least one additional cycle of burn-in testing.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for testing a wafer having integrated circuit (IC) dice formed thereon, comprising:
stressing ~~said the~~ IC dice;
storing wafer level burn-in reliability data in nonvolatile elements in each IC die on ~~said the wafer~~;
and
performing a wafer probe procedure comprising:
executing a functional test to identify error-free IC dice and repairable IC dice from ~~said~~

the IC dice;
repairing all repairable IC dice; and
reading wafer level burn-in reliability data stored in-said the nonvolatile elements.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein ~~said~~-stressing, storing and performing are performed in the order stated.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein ~~said~~-stressing comprises using built-in self-stress circuitry in each IC die.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising generating burn-in reliability curves from-said the wafer level burn-in reliability data.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, further comprising determining whether to scrap-said the wafer, to scrap a lot including-said the wafer-~~or~~ or to identify a need for additional burn-in.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein ~~said~~-stressing ~~said~~ the IC dice comprises elevating a power supply voltage with respect to a nominal operating voltage.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising: forming a sacrificial metal layer for delivering power to-said the IC dice on-said the wafer prior to stressing thereof; and removing-said the sacrificial metal layer from-said the wafer prior to performing-said the wafer probe procedure.

16. (Currently Amended) A memory device comprising:
a memory array;
address compression circuitry in communication with said the memory array for compressing
memory array addresses into redundancy space;
nonvolatile elements for storing wafer level burn-in data; and
burn-in control circuitry in communication with said the memory array, said the address
compression circuitry and said the nonvolatile elements for controlling wafer level
burn-in and storing wafer level burn-in data in said the nonvolatile elements.

17. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 16, further
comprising signal detection circuitry in communication with said the burn-in control circuitry for
detecting a signal indicating a transition between wafer level burn-in self-stress and self-test
modes.

18. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 17, further
comprising built-in self-stress (BISS) and built-in self-test (BIST) circuitry in communication
with said the nonvolatile elements, said the address compression circuitry, said the burn-in
control circuitry and said the memory array for controlling said the wafer level burn-in self-stress
and self-test modes.

19. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 16, wherein said the
nonvolatile elements comprise antifuse registers.

20. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 16, wherein said the
antifuse registers comprise a number $m + 1$ of n -bit antifuse registers for storing failures detected
before and after m cycles of wafer level burn-in, wherein m and n each comprise positive
integers.

21. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 20, wherein each of ~~said the~~ *n*-bit antifuse registers comprises one bit for a time stamp and *n* - 1 bits for storing a binary number of failures detected.

22. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 16, wherein ~~said the~~ redundancy space comprises row redundancy space or column redundancy space.

23. (Currently Amended) The memory device according to claim 16, wherein a wafer level burn-in reliability curve may be generated from ~~said the~~ wafer level burn-in data.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for storing numbers of failures detected in an integrated circuit (IC) die on a bulk substrate at discrete time intervals during wafer level burn-in, comprising:

providing nonvolatile elements for storing wafer level burn-in data in ~~said the~~ IC die;

providing built-in self-stress (BISS) circuitry in ~~said the~~ IC die;

providing built-in self-test (BIST) circuitry in ~~said the~~ IC die;

initially testing ~~said the~~ IC die using ~~said the~~ BIST circuitry;

storing a number of failures detected in ~~said the~~ nonvolatile elements;

stressing ~~said the~~ IC die using ~~said the~~ BISS circuitry;

testing ~~said the~~ IC die using ~~said the~~ BIST circuitry; and

repeating as stated above until a predetermined number of cycles of wafer level burn-in are completed.

25. (Original) A method for switching between built-in self-stress (BISS) mode and built-in self-test (BIST) mode in an integrated circuit (IC) during wafer level burn-in, comprising detecting a supervoltage on a nonvolatile programming supply.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of screening unused antifuse registers during wafer level burn-in, comprising reading a time stamp bit for each antifuse register to determine whether the each said antifuse register has been used or has not been used.